

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of creating a flooring surface comprising the steps of:

B1 providing a floor tile comprising an enlarged photographic print and a transparent protective coating attached to said photographic print, said protective coating defining a barrier to prevent [to] injury to said photographic print from foot traffic and other objects passing over said floor tile;

affixing said floor tile to a floor to create said flooring surface.

21 26. (Amended) A floor tile for use as a flooring surface in a commercial merchandising display comprising:

B2 an enlarged graphic print of photographic quality having oppositely disposed first and second major faces; and

a transparent protective coating on said first major face defining a barrier to prevent injury to said photographic print from foot traffic and other objects passing over said floor tile.

B3 23 28. (Amended) The floor tile of claim 21 26, wherein said print depicts [an object] a retail product, and said print has been enlarged sufficiently to create a substantially full size, full scale simulation of said [object] retail product.

B4 24 29. (Amended) The floor tile of claim 21 26, wherein said print [depicts an object, and said print] has been enlarged sufficiently to create a large scale reproduction of a company logo as part of said merchandising display [substantially larger than

By full size, full scale simulation of said object].

25/30. (Amended) The floor tile of claim 21/26 wherein one or more of said floor tiles are affixed to a floor in combination to [define said flooring surface] create a photographic simulation of an object.

24/31. (Amended) The floor tile of claim 21/26 [wherein said protective coating comprises vinyl] wherein said print has been enlarged sufficiently to create a substantially full size, full scale photographic simulation of an actual floor covering or ground terrain.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 7, 10-31 were presented for examination. With the above amendments, claims 1, 26, 28-31 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-3, 7, 10-31 are before the Examiner.

In the Office Action of June 28, 1996, the Examiner rejected pending claims 1-3, 7, 10-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious in view of Travis.

A. Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 7, 10-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in view of Travis. The Examiner noted that Travis teaches a shower or bathtub enclosure which comprises a full scale photograph or print of an image or design,